Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 1, 2020

The Honorable Christopher C. Miller Acting Secretary of Defense U.S. Department of Defense 1300 Defense, Pentagon Washington, DC 20301 The Honorable Barbara M. Barrett Secretary U.S. Air Force 1670 Air Force, Pentagon Washington, DC 20330

Dear Mr. Acting Secretary and Madam Secretary:

We were delighted to learn of the decision last week by the U.S. Air Force to include Patrick Air Force Base in Brevard County, Florida as one of six candidate locations under consideration to house Headquarters, U.S. Space Command (USSPACECOM). We welcome the opportunity to host a site visit in the near future to share why we are confident that Florida will prove to be the optimal site for USSPACECOM Headquarters.

Patrick Air Force Base and its associated Cape Canaveral Air Force Station has earned a global reputation as the world's premier gateway to space for government and commercial customers. It is also home to the 45th Space Wing, which delivers assured access to space for warfighters. In addition to its renowned launch reputation, the quantity and quality of assets and expertise the community that USSPACECOM offers extend well beyond battlefield access to rocket and spacecraft manufacturing, payload and electronics, and ground support.

Brevard County, the epicenter of Florida's Space Coast, is one of the most military-friendly communities in a military-friendly state. The appealing environment, weather, quality of life, cost of living, A-plus-rated schools, and dynamic economy make Brevard County a location of choice for service members and for those looking to put down roots following separation or retirement from military service. There are 3,835 active duty, reserve, and guard personnel living in the county with 6,304 military dependents. More than 68,000 veterans call Brevard County home. The community is filled with organizations dedicated to active-duty personnel, veterans, and their families. Additionally, the Space Coast is surrounded by premier academic institutions with aerospace and aeronautics programs that train and produce world class talent.

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We understand a team will be scheduling a site visit, and we stand ready to support in any way that would be helpful. We look forward to welcoming personnel from the U.S. Space Command to our community.

Sincerely,

Bill Posey

Member of Congress

Stephanie Murphy Member of Congress

Mario Diaz-Balart Member of Congress

Ted Yoho, D.V.M. Member of Congress

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Val B. Demings Member of Congress

Val B. Demings

Michael Waltz Member of Congress

Charlie Crist Member of Congress

John H. Rutherford Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz Member of Congress

Daniel Webster Member of Congress

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Darren Soto Member of Congress

La Stack

W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress

Debis Wassum Shart

Debbie Wasserman Schultz Member of Congress

Ross Spano Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson Member of Congress

Francis Rooney Member of Congress

Francis Romey

Ted Deutch Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hasting Member of Congress

aleed Hastings

Al Lawson, Jr. Member of Congress

Gus M. Bilirakis Member of Congress

Donna E. Shalala Member of Congress